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THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'  
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*"The sweetness as well as the greatness of motherhood lies in the overcoming of self-love by mother for her children. She is ever giving something of her life to make another either happier or better."*—DAVID O. MCKAY.

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GROWTH OF THE CHURCH

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

(FOLLOWING is the text of President Heber J. Grant's opening address at the first session of the 102nd annual conference of the Church in the Tabernacle, Friday morning, April 8th.)

I rejoice exceedingly in having the opportunity of again meeting with the Latter-day Saints in General Conference.

It has been customary for many years in the opening of these conferences to give a statement regarding the expenditures in the various stakes of Zion, and for other purposes.

The expenditures by the Church for the year 1931 are as follows:

*Stake and Ward Purposes:* There has been returned from the tithes to the stakes and wards for the construction of ward and stake meeting houses, \$545,630.69; for ward maintenance expenses, \$647,194.36; for stake maintenance expenses, \$254,025.41; total, \$1,446,850.46.

*Education:* Expended for the maintenance of Church school system, \$751,200.28.

*Temples:* Expended for the construction, maintenance and operation of temples, \$201,833.50.

*Charities:* For the care of the worthy poor and other charitable purposes, including hospital treatment, \$224,556.38.

*Missions:* For the maintenance and operation of all the missions, and for the erection of places of worship and other buildings in the missions, \$757,126.76.

Total, \$3,381,567.38, which has been taken from the tithes and other Church funds and returned by the Trustee-in-Trust to the saints for the maintenance and operation of the stakes and wards

for the maintenance and operation of Church schools and temples, for charities and mission activities.

*Other Charities:* In addition to charities paid from the tithes as before named, there has also been disbursed the fast offerings and other charities and assistance rendered by the Relief Society in the sum of \$455,423.46, which amount, added to the \$224,556.38 paid from the tithes, makes the total charity assistance rendered by the Church, \$679,979.84. There has been collected by the various wards of the Church and paid to missionaries to assist in their maintenance, \$66,783.90.

Undoubtedly there has been expended by the people themselves, in sending missionaries out into the world and taking care of them while there, considerably more than one million dollars.

We have at the present time: Stakes of Zion, 104; wards, 934; independent branches, 70; dependent branches, 35; total wards and branches in the stakes of Zion, 1,039; Missions, 30; Mission branches, 860; districts, 266.

#### CHURCH GROWTH

Children blessed and entered on the records of the Church in the stakes and missions, 19,804.

Children baptized in the stakes and missions, 15,283.

Converts baptized and entered on the records of the stakes and missions, 7,596.

Number of long-term missionaries from Zion, December 31st, 1931, 1,627.

Number of short-term missionaries from Zion, December 31st, 1931, 30.

Number of local missionaries, 46.

Total number of missionaries on foreign missions, 1,703.

Number engaged in missionary work in stakes, 1,151.

Total missionaries, 2,854.

Number of missionaries who received training at the Missionary Home, 601.

Persons recommended to the temples, stakes, 72,152.

*Social Statistics:* Birth rate, 29 per thousand; marriage rate, 12.8 per thousand; death rate, 6.6 per thousand; families owning their own homes, 64.2 per cent.

Our record shows that in years gone by over seventy-five per cent. of the people owned their own homes. There is a spiritual growth always when people own their own homes. The owning of a home creates a spirit of loyalty to the Church and also, really, to the government. It is illustrated somewhat in an incident that I heard regarding a nobleman in France who was very wealthy. His butler, who drew a large salary, attended socialistic meetings. The nobleman noticed that the butler had discontinued attending these meetings and asked the reason.

Said he: "At the last meeting a report was made of how much

per capita everybody would receive when all of the wealth was appropriated and distributed, and already I have more in the savings bank than would come to me."

It cured him completely.

#### LAUDS THOSE DEAD

I am sure that those of us who had the opportunity of attending the funeral of President Charles W. Nibley felt very grateful for the remarkable spirit that was present and for the very splendid tributes that were paid to him. I had that privilege, and I rejoice in the spirit of that occasion, and in the excellent remarks.

I regret that I was in the east at the time of the funeral of the Patriarch. But from what I have read of the services I am very pleased indeed with the tributes paid to him.

In addition to these officials of the Church whose names I have read, who have passed away during the time since our last conference, the editor of the *Improvement Era*, and former president of Liberty Stake of Zion, Brother Hugh J. Cannon, has also passed away. Brother Cannon presided over the Swiss and German Mission many years ago when I was president of the European Mission.

He subsequently returned to Germany and Switzerland and fulfilled a third mission, he having been there originally as a young missionary, not presiding. Brother Cannon, as you are all aware, filled a mission with Brother David O. McKay, taking a trip around the world, visiting all the missions of the Church, I believe, with the exception of South Africa. I rejoice in the splendid record that Brother Hugh J. Cannon made in every Church position that he occupied. He was a man of God, a man worthy of the respect and admiration of all people.

I rejoice in the integrity of the Latter-day Saints. I rejoice in the absolute honesty of the men who have held positions as the General Authorities in this Church, the falsehoods of any human being to the contrary notwithstanding.

I rejoice in the fact that when I was in England I carried a letter from non-"Mormon" bankers in Salt Lake City vouching for me as a gentleman of unquestioned integrity and honesty, from bankers in San Francisco, Chicago and New York, containing the same kind of recommendation. I remember calling on a newspaper that had published seven or ten columns, I am sure, of vile misrepresentations about us, carrying with me a letter of introduction from the shipping firm with whom we had done business for over sixty years, not only vouching for my honesty and integrity, but for that of every president of the European mission during that period. And yet the assistant editor of the

paper positively refused to publish one word of refutation. I pleaded with him to no avail.

#### ANSWERS EDITOR'S ACCUSATIONS

I walked to the door, turned and said :

"By-the-way, my letter was not to you. It was to the editor. The boy who came down the stairs announced that the editor was absent but that the assistant editor, Mr. Robinson, would receive me. Is your name Robinson?"

"Yes."

"Do you know Phil Robinson?"

"Why, everybody knows Phil Robinson."

I said: "Was he the correspondent of the *London Daily Telegraph* during the Boer War, one of the two greatest (and I emphasized 'greatest' because his paper was not one of the two) newspapers in Great Britain?"

"He was."

"And would you believe anything that Phil Robinson said?"

"I would."

"Is he editing the *Court and Society Journal* here in London?"

"He is."

"Seeing that you believe anything this gentleman says, buy his book entitled *Sinners and Saints*, it will cost you two shillings, and you will find that everything you have published in your paper about the "Mormons" is a lie, pure and simple. Phil Robinson traveled from Idaho in the north to Arizona in the south, through all of our settlements, with the late John Henry Smith, and he met our people, and you will find, if you will read his book, that you have published a lot of falsehoods. I defy you to get a letter of introduction vouching for the honesty of any person who has furnished you the information that has been printed in your paper against us, and I have in my valise letters from bankers in Utah and from bankers in New York, Chicago and San Francisco, vouching for my honesty, and I brand your publication as false."

"Well," he said, "you surprise me that Phil Robinson would vouch for your people."

"Oh," I said, "you are not the first person that has been surprised when he ran up against the 'Mormon' question."

He said, "Write us a half column."

I said, "Small favours thankfully received; large ones in proportion. Seven to ten columns of misrepresentations and a half column of refutation. You shall have it within the next two hours."

He received it all right and kept it thirty or sixty days and returned it with the usual printed slip that I have seen very often: "The editor regrets that he cannot find space for the enclosed manuscript which is returned."

What a change has come about! To-day reporters attend

our meetings in all parts of the British Isles and make fair reports of everything that goes on. Three whole years in England without one single line of refutation in any newspaper when I presided there. The wonderful work accomplished by Brother Talmage, and that is being accomplished by Brother Widtsoe, in getting us before the public honestly and fairly, in our missions in Europe, has filled my heart with joy and gratitude.

It may not be out of place to-day for me to make a few remarks that are personal in their nature. I never expected when I was a young man to live to announce that I had celebrated my seventy-fifth birthday. I often said in my youth that if I could live twenty-five per cent. longer than my father who died when he was forty, I would be perfectly satisfied with life, which would be until I was fifty years of age. To-day I have lived fifty per cent. longer than that, and to be perfectly frank with you, I am not quite satisfied with life now, but would like to live a little longer.

#### THANKFUL FOR HEALTH

I rejoice in what I have seen in the seventy-five years of my life. It may sound a little egotistical, but few men reach the age of seventy-five years in perfect vigor of health of body and mind, and I desire in this conference to express to my Heavenly Father and to the people composing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, my gratitude for this vigor of body and of mind, and for the health that I possess. I am grateful, beyond all of my ability to express my gratitude, for the prayers and the faith and the good will of the Latter-day Saints.

There is nothing in the world, I am sure, that a man should value so highly as the love of those with whom he is associated, and I appreciate very greatly the love and confidence of the Latter-day Saints and of the officers of the Church. That this has been extended to me fills my heart with gratitude beyond all my ability to express it, and the blessings that have come to me from my Heavenly Father and the honours that have come to me in being permitted to stand here representing His Son Jesus Christ in the restored Gospel, fill my heart to overflowing.

I am grateful beyond expression that from the time I was a boy of fifteen, and entered the office of a non-member of the Church—working for non-members of the Church from then until just before I was twenty, when I went into business for myself—I am grateful that I have never found anything at home or abroad, in all these sixty years, that has in the slightest degree lessened my faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

But on the contrary, I have been constantly finding additional evidences of the divinity of the work in which you and I are engaged. This is a source of the keenest gratification to me. Little evidences of the divinity of the work have come to me from time to time, some of them very strong.

I have often mentioned it in public, that while I was being entertained at a dinner in London by one of the managers of the great New York Life Insurance Company, I met a gentleman who had been connected with the British Legation in Constantinople, and who had spent years in the Holy Land. He had been to America a number of times. I spent the evening after dinner chatting with him because of his remarkable experiences and the interesting things he had to say. Finally, he said to me:

"Mr. Grant, do you know that I ran across the most inexplicable thing of my life the last time I visited Canada. I went away up into the northern wilds of Canada, beyond all civilization, visiting with those heathen Indians. I found among them the exact pattern, woven in coloured beads, of Holy Land rugs, and in no other part of the world that I have visited have I seen any rugs of the same pattern as those oriental rugs in the Holy Land, and in some sections certain patterns have come down for hundreds, almost thousands of years, in one family. They have no fabrics up among those Indians with which to do weaving, but they had the exact patterns, yet they had never heard of Jerusalem, and it is the most inexplicable thing in my life."

I said: "That is very easy to a 'Mormon.' Have you ever heard of the Book of Mormon?"

"No."

"I will send you a copy. It is the Bible, so to speak, of the American Indians, their sacred history, and you will find that the forefathers of the American Indians and other peoples who have been on this continent came from Jerusalem."

He said: "What? That explains the inexplicable."

Now that may not be counted by some as much of a straw of evidence regarding the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon.

#### PRAYS AS YOUTH WITH BRIGHAM YOUNG

I am grateful to bear witness to this audience that from the time I was a little child not more than five, I am sure, until the day of his death, when I was nearly twenty-one, I was very intimate with Brigham Young; that when the bell would ring for family prayers, quite frequently I would run through our back lot across through Brother George A. Smith's lot and across the street, and kneel down in President Brigham Young's home at family prayers.

I knew him intimately, as I say, from the time I was five or six years of age. I was born where the Z. C. M. I. store now stands. Father's lot was 165 feet front by 330 feet deep, and the lot just like it on the south was occupied by Edward Hunter, and a lot of the same size on the north was occupied by Daniel H. Wells, two of as God-fearing, kind, splendid men as ever drew the breath of life. I grew up under their tutorship to a certain extent.

The last interview I had with Brigham Young was on the very

day he was taken sick. I met him coming out of his office with a cape on his arm, and I said :

“President Young, I was elected yesterday the assistant cashier of Zion’s Savings Bank, and I have been told this morning that I must give a bond of twenty-five thousand dollars to vouch for my honesty. It occurs to me that it would be very appropriate and a nice thing for the president of the bank to sign the bond of the assistant cashier.”

He smiled and said : “Heber, I have had a very strenuous day. I am just going for a ride. I shall be glad to sign the bond. I do not see how I could get out of it because I said so many good things about you in the director’s meeting yesterday (or the day before, I have forgotten which) about your integrity and honesty and favouring you for this job ; and if I refuse to sign your bond now, the directors would say, ‘What did you say all those good things about him for if you are afraid to sign his bond?’”

#### RECOGNIZED AS GREAT COLONIZER

He came home, was taken sick and passed away. I am sure, from my own experience and all of the symptoms that were published in the paper, he died of appendicitis. During all those years of my acquaintance with him, fully fifteen years, I learned to love and respect him as a man of God, a man of great ability.

I remember saying to the vice-president of a great bank with hundreds of millions of dollars, that the day would come when Brigham Young would be acknowledged as one of the greatest pioneers and colonizers who ever lived.

He said : “Why say the day will come? No man who knows anything of the accomplishments of Brigham Young but what could say the day has come.”

Do you know that all this trouble about the Hoover dam and the division of water never would have come about if we had got all that President Young tried to get.

All that he asked for when he knocked for admission into the Union as the State of Deseret was all of Utah, fully one-half of Colorado, a little patch down in New Mexico so as to take in the San Juan River, all of Arizona, Nevada as far as the Sierra Nevada Mountains, Idaho way up into the north, and one-third of what is now California.

Los Angeles and that whole section would have been included. Every drop of water that goes into the Hoover dam would have been in the State of Deseret. Texas would not have been in it for size. This shows the great capacity of the man. He sent scouts into the various sections of the country, realizing as he did that irrigation was what was going to count, through the inspiration of the Lord, in this country, and he arranged to get all of the water shed of the Colorado River.

*(Continued on page 283)*

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1932

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**EDITORIAL**

**A TRIBUTE TO MOTHERHOOD**

THE second Sunday in May is a day in our calendar devoted to sacred motherhood, and we shall wear in her memory the beautiful flower, and from its depths will reflect the heavenly purity of her divine soul. From her came our first pulse beat. Her angel arms were our first cradle. At her knees she first formed our hands in prayer. From her trembling lips God's word first fell, like a divine presence, felt and seen. Through the years of our helplessness she gave us our first stir of might. How she poured into our wonder minds the ways of life; and as long as her lips were untouched by death, she prayed for our welfare. Her prayers were as holy incense rising from the altar of her soul. Even at eternity's gate, her face gleams like a star on the breast of night, waiting for the home-coming of her own. The beautiful spirit of motherhood shall blossom everywhere and bring forth fruits of noble deeds and holy living.

The real significance of Mother's Day is founded upon a deep sense of reverence for mother. This reverence is not a product of our modern civilization; it is as old as life itself. In all ages and in all climes, mother has been revered. The recognition of maternal love has had no restrictions nor limitations. At the sacred firesides of early family life, the unselfish ministrations of mother inspired and created a reverence or an obeisance which centuries of political, social and religious evolutions throughout the world have failed to destroy. Time has not diminished its brilliancy. Its radiance is a light unto our pathway, which leads to the sanctity of every home and touches our hearts with a sacred veneration for motherhood.

In all history there is no more heroic figure than a mother. Into every crisis of the civilized world there comes a man of destiny whose very life has been moulded and shaped by the loving hands and heart of a devoted mother. Upon the sacrifices of loyal and patriotic mothers nations have been founded, and only in the protecting shadows of their unflinching and constant love will it endure. That nation that desires eternity must exalt maternity. There should be and can be no place for the enemies and destroyers of the home. The nation is simply a reflection of the home, and that which sanctifies the home necessarily sanctifies the nation. The ideals of one are the ideals of the other. The home and nation are inseparable. The state must preserve the home if it shall endure; it is worth all that it costs.



There is no people in all the earth that honours motherhood more than do the Latter-day Saints. They know her divine mission. Through modern revelation they have been taught of her ultimate exaltation, in fulfillment of the eternal plan of increase and progression. So that not only on Mother's Day, but on every day in the year is the name of mother truly sacred in the home of the true Latter-day Saint. She is there respected, honoured and revered. The children have been taught that she will be their mother throughout time and all eternity, if sealed by the holy Priesthood and sacred vows are kept inviolate. As beautifully expressed by the late President Joseph F. Smith, "When I think of our mothers, the mothers of our children, and realize that under the inspiration of the Gospel they live virtuous, pure, honourable lives, true to their husbands, true to their children, true to their convictions of the Gospel, oh, how my soul goes out in pure love for them; how noble and how God-given; how choice, how desirable, and how indispensable they are to the accomplishment of God's purposes and the fulfillment of His decrees." That is the noble station of the mother of the true Latter-day Saint home.

Let no Mother's Day pass without paying tribute to mother yet with us, and cherish the memory of her who has gone before.

The noblest thoughts my soul can claim,  
 The holiest words my tongue can frame,  
 Unworthy are to praise the name,  
 More sacred than all other;  
 An infant, when her love first came,  
 A man, I find it just the same.  
 Most reverently I breathed her name,  
 The blessed name of mother.

JAMES H. WALLIS.

## DISTINCTIVE MOTHERS

MOTHERS occupy a distinctive position in the philosophy of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The credits required for full and honoured matriculation in the ranks of "Mormon" motherhood are perhaps the most stringent of any like organization. To some, perhaps, the requirements seem too exacting, nevertheless thousands of faithful mothers testify that these principles form the only worthwhile foundation upon which to rear a happy and healthy family.

Robust physique, absolute chastity and superior intelligence are the goals toward which the young daughters of Zion strive in preparation for assuming the duties of motherhood. The results of such superior efforts and ideals speak for themselves. Latter-day Saints head the list in a higher rate of births and a lower rate of deaths than any other similarly large body of people. The fact that "Mormon" women have proportionately fewer

deaths among the children they bear, is still further proof of the efficacy of striving for physical perfection through observance of the God-given laws of health.

No other group of women have a social heritage as noble as the present-day members of the Church. The toils, hardships, struggles and sacrifices of their intrepid pioneer mothers form an unequivocal page in history. Much indeed there is to revere, much indeed there is to accomplish. Realization of the great events in store for modern Israel have scarcely begun to unravel.

Mothers have been the index to the true worth of all nations, in all ages and dispensations. High-minded and deeply spiritual womanhood inevitably imparts the same qualities to its progeny. A notable example of this very fact is recorded in the Book of Mormon, when more than two thousand Ammonite boys engaged in moral conflict with the Lamanites. Through the vital and all-trusting faith that these lads possessed in God and His will, not a single one of them lost his life. As is the case in most accomplishments of men, it was to their mothers that the credit for this remarkable incident was rightfully given. They were the parties responsible for planting this extraordinary faith in their sons' hearts. Especially significant is this instance when one takes into consideration the fact that these mothers themselves were hardly more than barbarians a few years previous.

Nothing in this world is more sacred, divine or beautiful than motherhood. By descension to the very portals of death in order to afford another spirit the opportunity of partaking of this earth-life's experience, woman becomes a shareholder with God in the creative plan.

Yes, a mother in the latter-day Church is distinctive. She not only begets and raises her children merely for this earth, but she contemplates association and co-advancement with them throughout all eternity. With such thoughts, how small seems the price of giving up some of the transient, fluttering and imaginative pleasures of this life in return for a brimming eternity full of joy everlasting, happiness begotten of the satisfaction of knowing that she has given the individual she mothered the best of intellectual and physical endowments. What an immortal crown of glory is hers if she will only pay the price. However, the beautiful thing about it is that, in attempting to fit herself for such an honour in the kingdom of heaven, she finds that the same path leads to the kingdom of heaven on this earth.

Aye, mothers of the "Church of the new dispensation" are unique, not only in the ideals and heritage they have to live up to, but more especially in the great destinies that the future patiently holds for them. Little wonder that they believe in raising boys and girls to be "honest, true, chaste, benevolent and virtuous."—DENNIS MCCARTHY.

## GROWTH OF THE CHURCH

*(Concluded from page 279)*

As you all know I was chosen as one of the Apostles during the administration of John Taylor, a God-fearing, inspirational man. I can vouch absolutely from my intimate association with him from the day I was made an Apostle, two years after he became the president, to the day of his death, for the inspiration of the living God that came to him and the nobility and uprightness of his life.

I can say the same of Wilford Woodruff during his administration, and of Lorenzo Snow. I can say the same thing of President Joseph F. Smith, than whom I am sure no man has lived more in the hearts of the Latter-day Saints from the days of the Prophet Joseph to his day as the president of the Church. I rejoice in my knowledge of the integrity of their lives, their honesty, and their devotion to God, and that the first and foremost thing with them was to labour for the Gospel and the spread of truth upon the earth.

I rejoice in a letter that I received from the general manager of one of the greatest life insurance companies in the world when I was made an Apostle. He said :

“I owe an apology, Heber, to your fourteen associates in the Presidency and Apostles. I have always thought they were a designing lot, that they were getting rich because of the religious enthusiasm and the ignorance of the people of your Church, gathering in their tithes, etc. But now that you are one of the fifteen, I apologize to the other fourteen. If they were not honest and upright men they would not dare invite you into their councils, because if there were anything crooked you would give the whole thing away. I know you are fundamentally honest from the crown of your head to the soles of your feet.”

## PRESIDENT IVINS PRAISED BY MILLIONAIRE

No truer statement was ever made by mortal man than that by Josh Billings: “Never judge a man by his relatives, he cannot help them, they are crowded upon him; but judge him by the company he keeps, because he picks his own.”

I met a millionaire on the street—the late David Wood—the next morning after Anthony W. Ivins was made an Apostle, and he said :

“Hold on, Grant, don't walk so fast. I want to tell you something. I am glad you are running your ‘Mormon’ Church just to snit me. If you had come down to my office yesterday and said, ‘Dave Wood, you have lived among this people for twenty-five years; you have been a friend of the ‘Mormons’ not only in

the United States but in foreign lands ; you have spoken well of them ; you have a 'Mormon' Bishop managing your business in Idaho—now I have been told to come down here, as you have met the leading men of the Church from Canada on the north to Mexico on the South, to say that the Apostles want to express their gratitude for your friendship, and we will let you name the very best man to fill the vacancy in the quorum of Apostles,'—do you know, Grant, I would not have batted an eye or taken a breath, but I would have just hollered, 'Ivins.' I am glad you are running your Church to suit me. Good day."

I rejoice in the good will of those who know us. I have said many times that a man who so lived that those who knew him best, loved him most, and whom God loved, was entitled to be crowned with the wreath of success although he might die in poverty ; and I do know that the Lord has seen fit to love, and did love and did inspire all of my predecessors.

I am happy in the good will that exists, I believe, for this people. Not only in the United States, but wherever I go to-day I am treated with respect. When I think of going to Kansas City some years ago and there speaking before the Knife and Fork club which is claimed to be the second greatest dinner club in the United States, and speaking on the accomplishments of the Latter-day Saints for a full hour—the other speakers, one of them the president of a great University, being limited to thirty minutes—and I being advertised as the guest of the evening and receiving applause, and then being invited to come back again and speak before the Chamber of Commerce in Kansas City, my heart is filled with gratitude. Where was this ? It was within ten miles of Independence, from which place the Latter-day Saints had been expelled under an exterminating order of the acting-governor of the state.

#### READS OF PERSECUTIONS

I have been reading again lately the wonderful record of the Missouri persecutions and the fall of Nauvoo, by Elder Brigham H. Roberts, and as I think of those terrible things that happened—imprisonment, the sentence of death passed upon the Prophet, the Patriarch and others ; the murders at Haun's Mill ; the battle at Crooked River ; the driving out of the remnant of the saints from Nauvoo in the dead of winter and their crossing the river on the ice—when I think of all these things that the early saints had to endure, it seems to me that this depression is a good deal in the nature of a flea-bite in comparison.

I see the time has expired. You will pardon me for being personal, but you know they say when a person gets beyond seventy-five years of age he cannot talk of anybody but himself, and likes to deal in reminiscences, that he has no thought for the

future. I want to quote a few lines entitled *Age*, and say that they are my sentiments, although not original with me :

“Age is a quality of mind :  
 If your dreams you’ve left behind—  
 If hope is cold :  
 If you no longer look ahead,  
 If your ambitions’ fires are dead—  
 Then you are old.

“But if from life you take the best,  
 And if in life you keep the zest,  
 If love you hold :  
 No matter how the years go by,  
 No matter how the birthdays fly—  
 You are not old.”

I do hold love for the Latter-day Saints. I do love my God, and I do love the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I hope to accomplish more in the next five years of my life than I have accomplished during any previous five years. May the Lord help us one and all to be loyal and true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is my humble prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.—(Published in the *Deseret News*, April 8th, 1932.)

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## MANCHESTER DISTRICT CONFERENCE

PHILANTHROPIC HALL, Hyde, Cheshire, formed the gathering place for all of the members and friends of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who were residing in that vicinity on Sunday, April 17th.

District President Martin R. Braithwaite gave the conference a rousing send-off with his hearty “welcome to all” address, at the morning session. After an uplifting preliminary program, separation of the Priesthood and Relief Society was made. Patriarch Wallis and President Douglas administered words of counsel to the Priesthood and Sister Wallis and Sister Douglas gave instructions to the ladies. Eighteen brethren were ordained and advanced in the ranks of the Priesthood.

The same fine spirit was carried over to the afternoon service which convened at three o’clock. District President Braithwaite gave the following report of the progress made during the last five months :

“We have had ten baptisms and twenty per cent. increase in tithes and fast offerings. The traveling Elders have spent 1,208 hours tracting, 1,338 hours visiting investigators, and 2,083 hours visiting members. They have held 986 meetings in halls, cottages and in the open-air; have engaged in 2,397 conversations on Gospel subjects, distributed 94,486 tracts, 599 pamphlets and 38 copies of the Book of Mormon. All six of our branches are

operating under the supervision of local Elders and feel the spirit of love and unity."

Short discourses were delivered by local Elders H. T. Pardoe and William Gregson, and traveling Elders E. LeRoy Anderson, Owen S. Leishman and Eugene A. Hooper.

President John A. Widtsoe, President of the European Mission, and a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of the Church, was the principal speaker. He complimented the people on the fine spirit that existed, saying that such could only be maintained by faithfulness and diligence to the Gospel plan. He told of the winning fight that the members of the Church were waging, relating how science is verifying the truth of the restored Gospel. He concluded by asking all to remember his words that the time would come when the entrance of the Gospel to England would be acknowledged as the greatest day in her history.

In the evening the third and last session was marked by the attendance of nearly three hundred people. Piano and vocal solos added much to the joy and inspiration of the occasion. Both Sister Wallis and Sister Douglas bore emphatic testimonies of the love they felt for the latter-day work, and testified of the burning conviction they felt in their hearts concerning its divinity. President Douglas spoke of his ancestry, who had come from that section of the world. Make the opportunities afforded for continual advancement in the Gospel pay, was his advice. He also enumerated some of the physical, mental and spiritual gifts that the Gospel held in store for an individual if he will only do his part.

Patriarch Wallis related his early experiences connected with his acceptance of the Gospel, telling of the ten missions performed by his family, and their willingness to sacrifice all for truth. "Some of the world's greatest men are products of 'Mormonism,'" he said, referring especially to Senator Reed Smoot and United States Ambassador to Mexico, J. Reuben Clark. "Ye shall know them by their fruits," said the speaker, in conclusion, exhorting the saints to remain faithful, reminding them that "the race is not to the swift," but to him that endures to the end.

Mission authorities and traveling Elders present were: President John A. Widtsoe, Patriarch and Sister James H. Wallis and Elders Percy L. Matthews, Clifford L. Ashton, Arnold D. White and Richard G. Johnson of the European Mission; President and Sister James H. Douglas of the British Mission; President Martin R. Braithwaite and Elders Owen S. Leishman, E. LeRoy Anderson, Leslie T. Norton and Eugene A. Hooper of the Manchester District.

E. LEROY ANDERSON, Clerk of Conference.

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GENUINE religion is as simple as a mother's lullaby, as soothing as the cooing of doves, and as joyous as the song of a lark.—  
NEPHI JENSEN.

## FROM THE MISSION FIELD

**Appointment and Release:** Elder Elmo H. Ellsworth of the Norwich District, was transferred on April 14th, to labour in the European Mission Office.

**Branch Conference:** Of the Barnsley Branch, Sheffield District, April 17th, depicted in two well-attended sessions the theme, "The Second Coming of Christ." The evening session was attended by forty-nine persons. District President Robert C. Neslen and Elders Russell S. Ellsworth, H. Vernon Clegg and Allen N. Adams were in attendance.

**Doings in the Districts:** *Bristol*—One convert was baptized in the Plymouth Branch, April 10th. The service was conducted by local Elder Walter Shortle, and confirmation by President Harold E. Dean.

*Scottish*—The Masonic Hall of Glasgow was the scene of a lantern-slide lecture delivered by Elder Perry L. Watkins before a large audience of sincere members and friends. The successful affair took place on Saturday evening, April 16th.

Friday, April 15th, approximately two hundred of the members and friends of the Airdrie Branch enjoyed a lantern-slide lecture presented by Elder Perry L. Watkins.

## MOTHER

(NOTE: The first short poem was penned by George H. Bailey, and the second by his wife, as a Mother's Day tribute to Sister Florence E. Bailey, Sr., of the Sheffield Branch, mother of the former. Brother Bailey's wife, Ethel Bailey, lost her mother in death when an infant.)

O Mother Mine, full of Love Divine,  
 This day thy soul shall be my shrine;  
 And though my offering be just a flower  
 That gladdens the heart and dies in an hour,  
 The love it brings this day to thee  
 Shall live through all eternity.  
 And when this mortal day is done,  
 And your crown of glory you have won,  
 O, may I live and worthy be, thy son.

A Mother's love I had not known  
 Until I ventured into your home;  
 Your kindly smile, your loving heart,  
 In my short life have played their part.  
 And when I passed through death's dark valley  
 I felt your presence, O noble ally!  
 I knew the mother who gave me birth  
 Was watching, too; I knew your worth;  
 And when we reach the eternal shore,  
 You'll find her there, just one friend more.  
 Rejoice, dear heart, on this Hallowed Day,  
 I love you now and will alway.

## TO OUR MOTHERS

DEAR MOTHERS, this day we greet you,  
 Off'ring our thanks to you all ;  
 In word and song we honour you,  
 Expressing our heart-felt call.

Your mission is great and holy,  
 Your calling is sacred—divine ;  
 So we reverence, in humble devotion,  
 And bow at your sacred shrine.

To us your lives have been given,  
 To us, your love and your care ;  
 We give to you, dear mothers,  
 Our gratitude, and humble prayer.

A prayer that your hearts may be gladdened,  
 That your lives may be long and sweet ;  
 That we, as your children, will serve you  
 And later, in heaven will meet.

Your lives have been glorious examples,  
 God bless you, dear mothers, this day ;  
 And help us, your children, to heed you  
 In living God's choicest way.

This day, dear mothers, we remember,  
 And think of all you have done ;  
 We love your dear eyes, warm and tender,  
 Which inspire good works from above.

Again we say, God bless you,  
 Creators of love and truth ;  
 Mothers of men and of nations,  
 Teachers of age and of youth.

This day, dear mothers, we honour you,  
 And ev'ry other day, too ;  
 So help us, dear mothers, to worship,  
 And live and to serve, like you.

DORIS OWENS, Burnley Branch.

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